I only have about 10 minutes to do something in Family History. How can I be productive?

1. Sign into FamilySearch, click on “Family Tree” at the top, then “Tree”. Go to “Fan Chart”. Here you can quickly see who needs ordinances (green) or who needs “more information” (yellow) or under “Research Helps” who has ”Sources to Attach” (blue) or who has “Data Problems” (red). See top right under “Options” to know what the different colors mean.

A. Attach sources—often you find family members who were missed or you might find mistakes like family members who weren’t really there or who were much older or younger to be in that family. Most programs will give additional sources at the side or the bottom of page. Check those out too.

B. Fix data problems—Most of these are just a matter of standardizing the date and place. Put your cursor after the date or place and tap on the space bar to bring up the standard date or place. This is how the search engines work. By doing this, the program will find more hints for you.

C. Do this for all their descendants. Click on a person’s fan born in the late 1700’s. Under “Fan Chart” click on word “Descendancy” then click on 4 generations. You will have lots of red, and blue boxes. Click on arrow beside their name to see more family. Green boxes mean they have some ordinances to be done. Some may already have sources. If they do, you can submit them to the temple. If they have duplicates, leave them for another day. You will have to resolve the duplicate.

2. At the top of the FamilySearch page, click on ”Indexing”. You can help others find their ancestors by making that record searchable online. You have a week to do a batch. Work on what you can. If you don’t get it done, the batch automatically goes back for others to finish. Add pictures or stories if you have them or know them. You will get blessings for whatever efforts you are able to put in. Google “byufhl Family History Basic Tutorials” to see a video or handout and learn something about working in Fam. Hx.